REMARKS

At the outset, the Examiner is thanked for the thorough review and consideration of the pending application. The Final Office Action dated May 13, 2008, has been received and its contents carefully reviewed.

Claims 1-11 are canceled, and claims 18-35 are withdrawn from consideration in this application. Claims 12-17 are rejected by the Examiner. Claims 12, 14, and 16 have been amended. Claims 12-35 remain pending in this application.

In the Office Action, claims 12-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 4,279,035 to Skerlos (hereinafter "Skerlos") in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,686,846 to Holcomb (hereinafter "Holcomb") and U.S. Patent No. 5,713,040 to Lee (hereinafter "Lee").

The rejection of claims 12-17 is respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested. Claims 12 and 13 are allowable over the cited references in that each of these claims recites a combination of elements including, for example, "wherein the pulses of the signal of the first state continuously have same values." Claims 14 and 15 are allowable over the cited references in that each of these claims recites a combination of elements including, for example, "wherein the pulses of the signal of the first state continuously have same values." Claims 16 and 17 are allowable over the cited references in that each of these claims recites a combination of elements including, for example, "wherein the pulses of the signal of the first state continuously have same values."

In the Holcomb, the edge detect circuit 19 detects rising and falling edge of the signal and generates first and second pulses. The signal A of Holcomb is "high" value during a predetermined period as shown below FIG. The output signal E comprises the first pulse

A

E
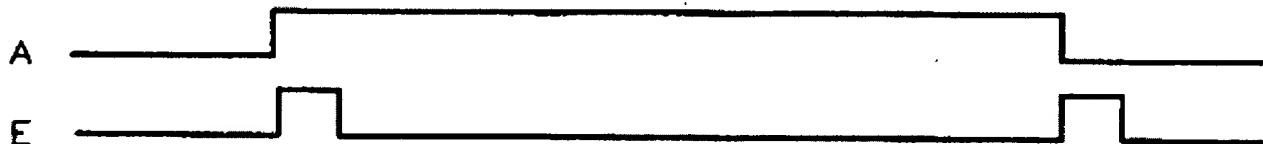
generated by detected rising edge of the signal A and the second pulse generated by detected falling edge of the signal A. Thus, the signal having "low" value is interposed between the first pulse having "high" value in response to the detected rising edge of the signal A and the second pulse having "high" value in response to the detected falling edge of the signal A. Accordingly, the first pulse for the detected rising edge and the second pulse for the detected falling edge are

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discontinuous.

But, in the present invention, the signal presence comparator 58 determines a presence signal DET when the number of continuous pulses of the output signal COM during an input interval of the detection reference signal Refvsync is larger than a set P value. For instance, it determines to be signal presence if a pulse having continuous "1" values is larger than a set 5 value; whereas it determines to be a signal absence if not (See paragraph [0049]). Thus, the pulses of the output signal COM have continuously have the same values.

None of Skerlos, Holcomb and Lee teach or suggest at least this feature of the claimed invention. Accordingly, claims 12-17 are allowable over Skerlos, Holcomb and Lee.

Applicants believe the foregoing amendments place the application in condition for allowance and early, favorable action is respectfully solicited.

If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at (202) 496-7500 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance. All correspondence should continue to be sent to the below-listed address.

If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136, and any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 for any necessary extension of time, or any other fees required to complete the filing of this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0911. Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911. *A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.*

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: **8 August 2008**   By: _____

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